



# CALIFORNIA GARDEN

Per Year  
One Dollar

AUGUST, 1916

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Some Odd Begonias  
Through the Exposition Grounds  
Growing the Dahlia  
Vegetable Gardens—Flower Gardens  
The Lath House

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# The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association  
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UR extreme sympathy is with the Park Board in their effort to retain competent aliens as gardeners, for if these be ousted under civil service rules in favor of natives it is quite possible the Park may suffer. It is not an easy job to build up even a small efficient gardening crew, with no restrictions as to race creed or color and it presents extreme difficulties if the selection is confined to the Simon pure American, or even if extended to the whitewashed one. Our gardeners are still for the most part imported, not that an American cannot garden as he can do anything else, but he has not wanted to, he has not regarded the trowel and the rake with any favor deeming their expert use as unworthy of a real man's effort to master. This has come about because America has not yet found time to garden, recreation here is something more strenuous more business like, perhaps something with a yell in it, one can hardly conceive of a gardening contest with much action in it.

America has bought her gardening, and must still do so till she is ten years at least the other side of her decision to do it herself, and she has not yet definitely made that decision.

We said that America could garden if she desired, but that statement is susceptible of some modification. She cannot garden as a purely mechanical proposition, she must breed a race of gardeners who love gardening whether it PAYS or not.


Indeed we sympathise with the Park Board but more with Superintendent Morley. We wonder whether any commission will tell John McLaren of Golden Gate Park, San Francisco how to adjust his working force and if so what kind of a Scotch dismissal to warmer regions they will receive.

Once upon a time we took a course in swear words to enable us to drive a span of mules but never became proficient, however that which we can do is at the service of the Park Board and its superintendent.

ERIAPS most of our stuff verges upon the personal, but the following is frankly admitted as in that class.

We are no longer an officer in the Floral Association, at this writing we do not even know who is, and our excuse for living is florally confined to serving as editor of this magazine. So much we admit but do emphatically declare that our interest and effort is as much engaged as ever. Several times we have been approached as if failing to be leader we could not be a follower, and a few prognosticated direful things. This last was flattering to us but showed a lack of appreciation of the strength and resource of the Floral Association and its hold upon the community. Perhaps the meeting immediately succeeding our effacement has never been equalled, certainly not surpassed in attendance or interest. The Floral Association is not a man, it is a principle, it is founded on the rock of our proven versatility as a garden spot and its support is as much a matter of sound policy as eating when one is hungry.

We hope elsewhere in this number to announce the new president and whoever such may be, we offer congratulations

UR business and all other kinds of Manager Guy T. Keene, is away Rotating in the heat of the East, this will explain any idiosyncrasies that appear in this number. One of his most arduous duties is to check our tendency to be foolish or worse. Now that he is not here to suffer the embarrassment of reading the proof and doing other printing stunts with it, we would like to register our emphatic endorsement of the gentleman as a friend helper and keeper. Only a small minority of readers have an idea of what his politic censorship has spared them. He smells a chesnut before it reaches the fire and can crowd the forms when the spring poem appears. We may curl the fringe but the warp and the woof owe their firm weave to Keene. May enough of him survive the effete east to ge to work immediately on his return.

# Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD



UST by the way let it be remarked that the excellence of the "Garden" as an advertising medium was proved by my last month's effusion, for several people have sent notice that they have more ponies than they need in their active business and they may take this as a sign that I foresee the time in the near future when I shall have one less.

I am interested in the suggestions that keep popping up as to the way of preservation of the Exposition as it is after it is not, and frankly I think altogether too much stress is being laid upon the maintenance of the buildings or their conversion into a permanent form, as none of the proposals have embodied a use for so many barn-like interiors. Were the city to take it over for a civic centre it could not preserve its present form and be really efficient, nor would a branch university find accommodation without a practical reorganization from beginning to end. The buildings are the difficulty in finding a solution, but they have only been one of the features in the picture and that not of an importance to compare with the garden one, or such was the judgment of many. So far as the picture is concerned it might be helped, it certainly would not be utterly spoiled, by the substitution of groves for buildings in some cases. The buildings were conceived for Exposition and therefore temporary purposes, they have served the same admirably, but are likely to be a misfit for anything else and therefore the solution would seem to lie along exposition lines. San Diego has done her darndest in this direction, she has the beautiful setting and wants to keep it in order, still she realizes that for her to continue after one encore would be an exposure not an exposition, in brief, she has an exposition site for rent under any favorable terms. Why not canvas for a tenant anywhere or anything from a country to a circus. Is it inconceivable that a coalition of concessionaries might be made to run themselves instead of being run? Could not a South American league find something attractive in a free setting for an exposition? I take it that San Diego would willingly keep up the grounds if some one else were responsible for other expenses and exhibits. Perhaps one of the large religious bodies like the Catholics or a semi one like the Y. M. C. A., might consider a special year's effort. The railroads might combine upon a show that would educate the public as to their methods and obtain that popular sympathy they are spending so much in advertising to obtain. The National Geo-

graphical Society might head an organization to bring us in touch with its activities, particularly recent explorations among the ruins of Inca civilizations in Peru.

As to the wonderful out-of-doors up there in our Park is it not possible that some national organization of seedsmen, nurserymen and florists could be induced to stage there a year's growing exposition of their best products? Such a proposition as this has not been very enthusiastically supported in the past, because the nurserymen who knew were hampered by regulations made by officials who did not, but this would be a proposition where the knowers did the running and regulation.

I am discussing this matter without heat and without prejudice, I hope, and I trust my remarks will be received on this basis, if they are not and I once more am damned as a knocker because I believe our civic centre is more important than what becomes of our exposition buildings and therefore its location should be uninfluenced by the latter problem, and that a state institution should be located where it does the most public service, I cheerfully accept the title without my views undergoing any change. Much of the wisdom of the city is centered upon this Exposition problem of "What next?" it undoubtedly has sensed the fact that it will be most useful to our community the closer it adheres to an Exposition quality. The auto and good roads increasingly demand a continuous show, as surely as these two are the great factors in sight to serve the great American urge to keep moving, it is vital to a community if it would stay on the map to be a point of attraction. An interesting, beautiful exposition in our Park, good roads to the East and North and for every auto party this year there will be five next and twenty-five the year after.

As some justification of this unwarranted interference by a mere bird in affairs that belong to real men, business men, let me say that I am thinking all the time of that lath house that should be up there, not a mere house of exhibits, however beautiful, but a garden under lath, a place to walk and talk and sit down and make love and read, however this is going to be talked of in the proper place.



# Monthly Excursion Through Exposition Grounds

By G. R. GORTON



ONE of the most valuable assets which our city park possesses is its magnificent topography, and this is probably the one feature which above all others impresses the observing visitor, especially if he be from the east. In order to fully appreciate how much the various canyons within the six hundred odd acres which comprise our Exposition grounds have contributed to the charm of the landscape effect, try to conceive of such an effect on a level site. It can't be done.

Some of the canyons are planted with exotics, while in others the native growth has been allowed full sway, possibly augmented by more native or kindred plants, but presenting the appearance of not having been distributed. But however planted, or even where for a space a hardpan ledge has been permitted to show its beauty unadorned, the charm is there, and nothing short of the united efforts of dynamite, Fresnos, etc., can change it materially.

Spanish Canyon, which lies east of the Canadian Building, is a jungle of cultivated plants. The term cultivated is unintentionally misleading in this connection, as in this instance the appearance is that of a happy touch of nature, and not at all that of man-made landscaping, excepting that the plants used are none of them indigenous to this part of the world. *Duranta*, *Fuchsia gracilis*, *Solanum jasminoides*, *Escallonia virgata*, *Ipomoea* and *Acacia floribunda* are all in flower, and lend just enough color to brighten up a background of green and gray furnished by those plants which are not blooming at this time of year. Here and there occasional Musas furnish what Prof. Stevens aptly calls accent plants. The rapidity of growth here has been amazing, and it seems incredible to those of us who remember the size of the planting material when it was first put in, that it could have attained such proportions in so short a time, even in Southern California.

Much has been said and written about the Palm canyon south of the Russia-Brazil building, and quite properly so. Here the effect is decidedly tropical—a blending of the luxuriant growth of the watered portions of California with the succulents of the desert. Here Palms, *Dracaenas*, *Agaves*, *Dasylerions*, etc., form the most conspicuous features of the planting, and there are, among the genera named, and among many others not men-

tioned, a considerable number of interesting and in some instances comparatively rare species deserving of consideration. At the head of the canyon, close to the walk a giant *Phoenix canariensis* is hung with festoons of *Salpichroa rhomboida* (which some one has termed "Creeping Lily of the Valley") as if for a fiesta. Under the protecting shade of this palm a *Gunnera* has attired itself in new leaves which are as fragile and delicate as number four sandpaper. Sometimes the *Gunneras* are referred to as *Chilian Rhubarb*—the barb being on the stems. Nearby are *Vinca* major, ferns, etc., very much at home in the shade.

It is probably safe to say that *Cabrillo Canyon* possesses more tints of green in the foliage clothing certain of its slopes, than any other similar portion of the Exposition grounds. Looking southeast from the bridge one finds almost every imaginable shade, interrupted here and there by the autumn-tinted foliage of the castor bean, or the flaming inflorescence of *Eucalyptus ficifolia*. Then, of course, in the lagoon at the bottom, is the gorgeous display of *Lotus* and *lilies*. These, however, will come in for their share of consideration next month, when all aquatics will be at their best, including the *Victorias* in *La Laguna de La Espeja*.

The floral border facing the Music Pavilion has changed in aspect. The pansies, which have been for months the object of much admiration from all flower lovers, have been succeeded by a border composed of *LOBELIA* edged with *Begonias*, and dotted at regular intervals with spots of *Celosia*. Against the balustrade at the head of the esplanade, the *heliotrope* still nestles comfortably in its cushion of the green foliage of *Acacia verticillata*.

In the Formal Garden, shades of pink and red predominate. Some blend with each other, some do not, but each is individually good, especially the *Gladiolus* and *Salvias*. An exception to the scheme of things is in the border of purple *Verbenas*, which have the color of royalty and the perfume of grandmother's garden.

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dues and subscription?

## THE GARDEN SNAIL



UST as the white man of European ancestry has dispossessed the American Indian of his inheritance, driving him back into the foothills, and then from the foothills to the mountains beyond, has also the garden snail, originally of old world descent, established itself in all civilized portions of the globe at the expense of the indigenous inhabitants. The original California snail has a flatter and more beautifully shaped shell, greenish brown in color, with a reddish brown stripe, the whole covered by a shining epidermis that quickly peels off after the death of the owner, leaving the shell bleached and fragile.

Most land snails spend part of each season in a dormant condition. In more northern climates this is a period of hibernation, and on retiring for the winter the snail seals up the door of his house with a sheet of slime that quickly dries out. This is known as the epiphragm. But in localities having no winter the dormant period takes place during the dry season, and is known as aestivation. The object of the epiphragm is no longer the conservation of heat, but of moisture, consequently the native San Diego snail has an epiphragm resembling a piece of fine-grained blotting paper, whence its Latin name, *Epiphragmophora*, the epiphragm bearer.

The European garden snail is known as *Helix aspersa*. The first name means spiral, and recalls Mt. Helix in El Cajon, the cone-shaped mountain with spiral roadway to the summit. The second name means scattered, as it is now found in nearly every civilized country in the world. Coming originally, so far as we know, from the Mediterranean region, it had no cause to hibernate, and having been so long associated with the human species has lost the habit of aestivation, consequently since its introduction to Southern California it has confined itself to public parks, gardens, etc., where the soil is irrigated all the year round. It is entirely absent from the mountains and back country generally.

The first city to extend its hospitality to the immigrants was Los Angeles, as far back as 1904 a healthy colony of them was in existence at Eastlake Park. Later they appeared at Santa Barbara, and sometime subsequently at San Diego. Being more prolific than *Epiphragmophora* it is rapidly displacing that form, which is unfortunate, for not only is the darker and more brilliant coloring of the native snail more pleasing to the eye, but its appetite causes it to prefer drawing its sustenance from the wild chaparral and cactus, rather than the domesticated shrubs on which *Helix aspersa* delights to wreak its depredations.

It is interesting to note that another European snail has recently taken up homestead rights amongst us, in a very restricted area

under a bridge near Pearl and Prospect streets, La Jolla. At present it seems even more prolific than its predecessor, but whether it will ever supplant it is a problem in acology of great interest to the student of natural history.

JOSHUA L. BAILY, JR.

## THE MISTLETOE A FOREST PEST



RECENT study, conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, of the injury done by mistletoe to coniferous trees in the Northwest, indicates that in many regions this is a serious forest problem. The western larch, the western yellow pine, the lodgepole and the Douglas fir suffer the most. Each of these is attacked by a particular species of mistletoe which gradually reduces the leaf surface of the tree and thus causes a great reduction in growth, both in height and in diameter. Excessive mistletoe infection of the lower branches of the tree may cause the upper portion of the crown to die, giving rise to what is commonly called stagehead or spiketop. Severe infection throughout the entire crown often results in the death of the tree. Young seedlings from three to six weeks old may be killed within a comparatively short time after they become infected. Furthermore, trees weakened by mistletoe infection are much more susceptible to attacks from fungi and forest-tree insects.

Bulletin No. 360, a professional paper of the Department, in which the results of this study are reported, also contains suggestions for the control of the mistletoe in those sections where it causes serious economic loss. The first recommendation is that in all logging operations infected trees be marked for cutting. This is regarded as of sufficient importance to justify in some cases the introduction into the contract of a special clause dealing wholly with mistletoe-infected trees. Pure stands of species of trees much subject to attack should not be established in mistletoe regions. If close stands are maintained in the exposed parts of the forest the infection will be minimized, for mistletoe is a light-loving plant.

Another suggestion is the elimination of all isolated seed trees which are infected by mistletoe. Under open, well-lighted conditions, the vigor of the parasite will become greater and young trees in the immediate vicinity will readily become infected. In this connection, it is noted that the mistletoe seed, when expelled from the capsule, may travel over a considerable distance, especially when assisted by strong winds. In one instance seeds of the larch mistletoe were collected in considerable numbers from the roof of a cabin that was a quarter of a mile away from the nearest infected tree.



# Some Odd Begonias

By MRS. FRANK WAITE

**S**OME begonias are prized for their beautiful foliage, while others are prized because of their combination of foliage and flowers. The foliage of this genus of plants is always attractive and interesting. I do not know of an exception in cultivation, but as one authority gives three hundred or four hundred known species, and makes the statement that only half of that number has been utilized or proved of any value to horticulturists, we may safely conjecture, I suppose, that in some cases begonias were not at par with the professional collector and grower. Still, I think I should have liked to have passed judgment on the rejected. These begonias were, of course, species growing in their natural haunts and collected for cultivation or trial. This cultivation of the species not rejected has produced wonderful results in variations, as this genus of plants takes kindly to hybridization.

The interest in begonia culture in San Diego is keeping a pace if not greatly outdoing many larger cities, in its collections of these odd and beautiful plants. In many of our lath houses and gardens are grown from fifty to one hundred and fifty varieties, not including the tuberous, which takes in the evergreen and the everblooming varieties.

However, begonia enthusiasts in San Diego and elsewhere can continue the fascinating hobby of collecting and cultivating the many desirable and beautiful plants of this family, as there are now, by actual scientific enumeration, thousands of them in their special and varied characteristics of markings, and colorings, flowers and foliage.

Few other plants have been developed and improved as rapidly as the begonia. I might mention the fern in this connection as a close second to the begonia in the multiplication of varieties. This fact is quite noticeable to the begonia culturist, as the ferns work in so beautifully with the former, and require just about the same treatment and care.

The begonia is not without its oddities in growth, but even the oddities are not without beauty. Begonia Phyllomaniaca is probably the progenitor of some of the familiar be-

gonias that are very desirable and also quite distinct in a way. The distinctive characteristic of the parent plant is seen in its odd way of supplying new plants, or reproducing itself in plantlets, on the main stem, the petioles and the leaves. These unusual growths are known as adventitious plantlets. This begonia is distinctive also in having the margin of its leaves slightly fringed. Begonias *Templinii*, *Ne Plus Ultra*, *Jessie* and *Nonpariel* undoubtedly trace back in their parentage to Begonia *Phyllomaniaca*, as is indicated by their foliage and the oddity of their adventitious growth. I have enumerated both *Jessie* and *Nonpariel*, although there is doubt in my mind as to whether they are not identically the same plant.

*Templinii*, like its progenitor, *Phyllomaniaca*, sometimes reproduces leaves that resemble miniature gardens, and if a mature leaf is inserted in sand and properly treated the result will be a whole colony of young plants. In this respect *Templinii* resembles more closely its specific parent than do any of the others.

Of this type of begonias, *Templinii*, which is comparatively new, having originated in the green houses of *Templin & Sons*, at *Calla, O.*, only a few years ago, is the most beautiful, as its foliage is marbled with creamy white and pink. It varies in its coloring, which is intensified in strong light and sun. With too much sun it grows coarse but very brilliant. It is beautiful at all times, in foliage and in flower, and it is a winter bloomer. With age it is inclined to grow leggy, so it is better to have new plants coming on while the old plant can be made to grow into better shape by having the top removed, as the old plant will then branch, but it will take time.

*Ne Plus Ultra* is a good winter blooming variety, and is suitable for either the lath house or the living room. I think it is finer in every way than either the *Jessie* or the *Nonpariel*. It never grows coarse, is always a beautiful light green, and with its profusion of pink blossoms growing from the axils of its leaves, it is indeed a charming combination of color.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST—By Miss K. O. Sessions

*Eucalyptus Ficifolia*, in all her various shades are glorious in the Golden Hill section of the city park and well worth a trip to see. Go north at the Twenty-fifth street entrance and keep to the northeast corner of the point of land. Don't view the group from the main

driveway, but go down among the trees so you can see them all at once and compare their wonderful colorings. Every one should plant this variety more generally. Its seed does not come true—it may bring forth any shade from white—through all the series of pink and on

to through the scarlets. Some very, very dark red ones are showing in the park near Juniper street, and the west driveways. The seed need to be 18 months old before it is ripe and can be gathered by October—not earlier.

An evergreen elm, one of the newer trees from China, is becoming established in our city and its beauty and value for planting on small lawns should be more seriously considered by home makers. It has a small leaf, very graceful and weeping branches, its new growth is very beautifully tinted a tawny yellow. Its size is desirable, though it at first is a fast grower. Its only fault thus far observed is the necessity of a good stake and

frequent tyings to give it a good, straight trunk while young and growing. Specimens in the following gardens should be observed: On Mr. M. Kew's lawn, northwest corner Sixth and Spruce streets; a pair at Mr. E. P. Allings, northwest corner Curlew and Spruce; at Mr. Morganstern's, Sunset Boulevard and Alameda Drive; at Mr. A. D. Robinson's, Rosecroft, Point Loma. It makes a tree beneath which the grass will grow and when matured appears like a small weeping willow—the branches of which do not touch the ground. One might call it an evergreen umbrella, but it does not have the stiffness nor formality nor the density of the Texas umbrella tree.

## Growing The Dahlia

By A. D. ROBINSON

**L**IKE most overwilling servants the dahlia is much imposed upon. Because it blooms much and long with any kind of treatment it is apt to get just that kind of attention. We spend a world of care and an infinity of fertilizer upon the haughty chrysanthemum, which in return gives a few blooms over a brief season, but leave the dahlia with its generous florescence to make "bricks without straw". Steadily, however, the dahlia is winning its way into our attention just as the commercial value of beauty is being dimly sensed by some of us, not in office, and we have begun to grow dahlias instead of allowing them to exist.

Many times before the advisability of disbudding as a means to larger better blooms has been accentuated, but in so far as the writer's knowledge has been gained by experience of a few brief years it must obviously be continuously subject to addition and correction, and the latest move has been to show that a proper disbudding is the best means of keeping the plant in good form as well as increasing size of bloom.

Word pictures, or mine at least, are apt to be very unilluminating so I am taking particular pains with this one and hope my readers will help me by using their intuition. Pinching back the first shoot of the dahlia has been advocated to cause a strong, bushy growth, capable of self-support so as to do away with the disfiguring stake, and it has not been popular chiefly because it was a little trouble and then it put off the blooming period a few days. My recent disbudding activities have enabled me to offer a substitute to

the impatient, but I still know of nothing and care to offer nothing to the indifferent. Let the shoots grow till the crown bud forms, then disbud, removing not only the side buds but the shoots down the stalk, leaving only two or three pairs at the base, according to the habit of growth, this will give the maximum sized flower with a long stalk and cause the succeeding growths to start low and when the first bloom and ALL its stalk are removed the bushiness is achieved and can be maintained if the process is repeated. It is the growths that start high on the main stalk that make staking necessary.

My first Doazon this season measures nine inches and my White Star in the East has given several over eight.

Having said this much for the intensive culture it is only fair to add that some varieties of dahlia lend themselves admirably to use as temporary hedges or dense masses when they can be left alone. There has never been so good a variety for this, as the old maroon and white cactus Mrs. Seale, which is worthy a place in any collection, it is exceedingly floriferous, bushes naturally and remains presentable over a long period.

We have had ideal dahlia weather, that is cool and overcast, but it threatens now to be real summer so that more water will be needed and it will be acceptable to sprinkle the bushes all over of evenings, merely a light application like a dew, if applied too heavily it will mar the blooms that are showing color, especially the whites.

Don't pick blooms for the house in the heat of the day and then cuss because they don't keep.



# Things Floral and Arboreal

By F. C. ARTER



WHAT unusual opportunities the citizens of Southern California have for acquiring first-hand knowledge of things floral and arboreal. For the past fifteen months we have had in the Exposition an object lesson in the possibilities of what may be done with work, water, weather and a will to do—and a few dollars of course. What a wonderful collection and arrangement of the beautiful and rare growing things of the wide world may be seen and studied on the grounds. The commendable efforts of the San Diego Floral Association and the pages of the California Garden, to instill into the minds and hearts of the public a better knowledge and greater appreciation of the growing things about them, will surely hasten the day when we may justly clean the undisputed honor of being "The City Beautiful."

Fortunate, indeed, are those who on all too rare occasions have had the exquisite pleasure of accompanying Miss K. O. Sessions on one of her "personally conducted" excursions through the Exposition grounds. Like a good shepherdess of pastoral days, yet without staff or crook, she leads her devoted flock with a kindly influence that is quite remarkable. Through winding paths, bordered and hedged in with all sorts of rare and beautiful exotic and native plants our guide would stop to name and describe some rare or unusually beautiful plant or shrub, giving bits of information regarding its native haunts, its cultural requirements, its utility as a commercial plant, its possibilities in the scheme of private planting—all this with the easy familiarity of one speaking of the most ordinary things of everyday life.

Mr. Gorton, too, through the medium of the Garden, conducts a monthly excursion through the labyrinthine paths and by-paths of the Expo grounds, calling attention to the many seasonal things as they attain to their greatest perfection of beauty, enabling those who are specially interested in certain plants to visit the grounds at the most opportune time.

And now, although not a "sky pilot," and ill-fitted for the task, and since the Early Bird has not, as yet, seen fit to wing his way to the dizzy heights of the great tower that over-shadows all other objects far and near, let me presume to invite all who may be physically able to go to the top of this magnificent piece of Spanish architecture. From its commanding heights you may catch such an inspiration as will amply compensate for the rather strenuous "pull" up the 218 steps

to reach the upper balconies. If you are a lover of art—French art—paintings, carvings, tapestries, etc., shut your eyes until you get beyond the second story, else you may forget whither you started. After passing through and up a series of gloomy rooms and stairways—made doubly forbidding by the defaced walls, the work of a species of vandalism for which there is no known remedy, you come to the first and main landing. Here, perhaps, your heart has been quickened into vigorous action and you are now ready to step out onto one of the balconies that overhang the four walls of the tower, here, too, begin your compensations. I could not, if I would, and would not, if I could, try to describe in detail this wondrously beautiful panorama that lies spread out beneath and beyond you. At your feet the living, growing map of the Exposition grounds, at once giving you a more comprehensive idea of the general "layout" of the whole scheme, the relative importance or prominence of each object in the scheme, its relation to other features that go to make up a most pleasing whole.

A wider circle of our view embraces Balboa Park proper. To the west, out beyond the terminus of the El Prado, the park is well developed. To the east it is yet in a rather primitive condition, and should be left thus. Beyond all this and completely encircling it, lies dear old San Diego. With all her faults and follies we love her still. To the northwest the San Diego river mingles her mountain waters with those of the Mission Bay. To the west lies the much extolled "Harbor of the Sun," beyond which looms Point Loma, obscuring the great and peaceful Pacific from this angle, but may be seen to the southwest where the "Silver Stand" calms and controls its ceaseless waves. To the southeast nestle the Bay Cities, with their new founding industries that promise so much for San Diego's material welfare. To the east and north mesa and mountain meet, forming a fitting back ground to this inspiring picture.

Over all this a balmy air prevails, redolent with the perfumes of spring flowers and resonant with bird songs. Thus it is wafted up to cool the perspiring brow of the beholder.

If you are still "game" and ready to "hit the trail" again, there is still two more "flights" to make before completing the climb, but perhaps without compensating "thrills" for the effort.

Contrast this magnificent view from the tower of the California State Building with some experience of the past—perhaps a trip to the top of Pikes Peak—that desolate waste

of gray granite and chilling air, then let your heart swell with gratitude for your present surroundings.

P. S. I cannot refrain from trying to correct a wrong impression that some may have gotten from this point by the appearance of a certain group of buildings that lie due south of here. They are not, as you are perfectly justifiable in thinking, a penal institution, but are our city high school buildings. I am not informed as to who designed them, nor who the commissioners, by who's will this anachronism was left us. They are so out of harmony with the purposes for which they were intended. Now let man unite with nature in an effort to undo, or rather cover up, so far as possible, the mistakes of the past. Let

there be planted vines, trees and shrubs, something that will reach to the very battlements above. There are good examples of what may be accomplished on the Expo grounds. A few climbing vines with *Coprosma* has been planted, *Coprosma* is all right in its field, but has a hopeless task down at the "Hi." In a pipeless dream, not long ago, I saw, or seemed to see, this same unsightly thing completely covered with climbing vines of differing foliage full blooming—red, white, blue, golden yellow. Beneath the window ledges of the upper story were boxes of trailing vines and flowering plants. The whole effect was beautiful beyond description.

If the Editor "blue pencils" this he does so at his own peril, it is such a relief to get a "whack" at the ugly thing.

F. C. A.

## Seen on the Way to Palomar



On a recent trip to Palomar, the scarlet peustemons, in four varieties, were very conspicuous—and all are desirable for cultivation as they bloom during the summer months, when the spring bloomers are past.

The purple pennyroyal mint was in abundant bloom on all the grassy flats and hillsides. Its perfume was most refreshing—*Monardella lanceolata*. A few spikes of the scarlet blossomed larkspur, *delphinium cardinalis*, were gathered. The wild fuchsia, or hummingbird's trumpet, *Zanschneria Californica*, was very charming and very thrifty. This plant lends itself so favorably to cultivation, because it stands much drought when established, and seeds itself readily. The azaleas and tiger lily—*Lilium Humboldti*—have been abundantly in bloom on Palomar. Through the valleys leading to Palomar the tarweed in full bloom made glorious golden fields and golden wayside patches.

There were great areas of wild sunflowers in full bloom. The wild buckwheat—*Eriogonum fasciculatum*, was very large and thrifty and its blooms so abundant and variable from pink to white. Everywhere this shrub showed signs of an abundant rainfall.

We can't appreciate too highly the exquisite beauty of this common shrub. Either in or out of bloom it is desirable and it should be more carefully protected on the vacant lots. One plant conspicuous by its absence on the road to Palomar was the corn colored type of the common red mimulus. On the road to Ramona and Julian and to Campo there is an abundance of it.

At Nellie, the hotel camp, the red and white clover of the eastern states was abundantly in bloom and very attractive. "Sweet shrub," *Calacanthus*, in good foliage and bloom. A luxuriant growth of the common hop vine.

The Castillian rose—so fragrant and so common in the early gardens of California—and best of all to the wayfarer a big patch of raspberries—red, white and black ones.

The rich, moist soil suited them well, as shown by their growth and abundant fruit. Why could not the cultivation of this one favorite berry be made more general in our mountain valleys, and the fruit be marketed in the form of first-class jam, instead of importing the same from our eastern states. There certainly is an opportunity for the industrious and ambitious worker.

Many plants ornamental or fruit-bearing could be successfully grown in localities where a more rigorous climate is needed, for instance the peony. Already lilac blooms are shipped to the city each spring. Peonies can be kept in cold storage successfully for four and six weeks. It is done regularly in Chicago.

## ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

On August first Mrs. Martha Ingersoll Robinson announced the engagement of her daughter, Ruth Ingersoll, to Joshua L. Bailey, Jr., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This announcement is of especial interest to readers of "The California Garden," as Miss Robinson and Mr. Bailey have each been frequent contributors to this magazine.

Miss Robinson is well known in San Diego, having lived here and at Coronado for the past eighteen years. Mr. Bailey, with his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Bailey, has spent a number of winters in Southern California. Mr. Bailey is a graduate of Haverford College and the University of Pennsylvania, and is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor fraternity. Mr. Bailey is an accomplished musician, and it is with pleasure that we welcome him to San Diego, where he has chosen to make his home.



# GREEN

By L. A. Blochman.

**W**HEN we talk of green, we do so generally just as we talk of white or black. But when we consider that there is only one white or one black, while there are hundreds of greens running the gamut from almost white to almost black, and when we multiply all of this line of green with its various mixtures with any and all of the other shades of the rainbow in various and infinite proportions and mixtures, then we realize that green means really more to us than merely a simple color.

To the garden lover this variation in the shades of green opens up wonderful possibilities, in the laying out of his garden. The combination or graduation of one green into another, then considering, the height to which a tree or shrub will grow, and how it will blend or contrast with other shades of green, all form an interesting as well as profitable study.

Certain greens form an admirable background for others or amplify the effect of the bloom of lower growing shrubs in front of them. Other plants again give wonderful effects if planted in mass, the foliage being really more of the garden than the bloom.

We give particular attention to planting certain shrubs so as to have a continuity of bloom, also as to the various colors of the bloom, so that one color will not clash with the other, but how many of us really pay the least attention to the foliage. Now really this is more important than the flowers for the reason that most shrubs or plants bloom from two to six weeks, while their foliage lasts all the rest of the year, so that in reality our gardens are gardens of green rather than of bloom. Then we have so many shades to choose from even in the same family of plants. Take the canna, for instance, with its great variety of green foliage. We have the dwarf and the tall varieties to choose from, then from a very light green foliage down to the bronzy greens and olives. What wonderful possibilities, in the proper placing and grouping of a bed of this description. One of the most striking examples of making use of the different greens was a formal bed that I once saw in Pasadena. It was made up of the commonest plants. A large bed of geraniums, with its mass of red flowers and bright green leaves. This was trimmed up to a uniform height, this mass of geraniums was surrounded by a carefully kept hedge of "dusty miller", about half its height, with its silver green leaves. In front of this was planted a

a wide band of low-growing plant with a yellowish green foliage, then came the lawn, with its emerald hue. The effect was most striking. Though it is not an effect that one would want to get except in formal gardening, yet it teaches us a lesson in the possibilities of contrast.

This same contrast is not confined to shrubs or flowering plants, but when we consider the eucalyptus, and the acacias, the conifers and even the palms with all their endless greens, then we have the further benefit of their forms and habits of growth, some that are tall and some that are short, and some that are slender and some that are spreading, some that droop and others that shoot aloft, then we see the possibilities are endless and the combinations so great that no one need have a garden that is any way like any one else's. There is a chance for ingenuity and originality that is open to us all. If we but study "green" and its combinations, we will surely have a garden of character.

Now when I say green I do not mean that we should avoid the using of other colored foliage, on the contrary, I find that we make too little use of foliage in the decoration and beautification of our grounds and of our lath houses. As I wrote earlier in this article, we depend more on foliage than flowers for our effects, and a free use of foliage plants is very desirable, and far too little understood or used. A study of the hills in our Balboa Park will prove a valuable lesson and give us a lesson of what may be accomplished, what may be improved upon, or what might be avoided in laying our gardens. There you will find a study in green. You will also see there the wonderful possibilities of plants like the castor bean (*ricinus*). The plants grow marvelously in this climate, there are over sixty varieties varying in color from almost blue to almost red, requiring little care, grow tall in a short time from seed, have a tropical effect and will cover many a hill or canyon side at little trouble or expense.

In fact, peppers, eucalyptus, acacias, and many other trees suitable for backgrounds and covering barren ground or hillsides, may be raised from seed at a small expense, cared for a year or two after being planted and wonderful results accomplished at a small cost in money. And after all these barren spots have been transferred, the value of green will once more become apparent and impress itself on our own minds as well as the general masses.



## The California Garden

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G. T. Keene, Manager  
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### The San Diego Floral Association

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#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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L. A. Blochman, Vice-Pres. and Treasurer  
R. W. Sumner, Secretary  
Miss A. M. Rainford, Miss K. O. Sessions, G. R. Gorton,  
Miss Leila Clough, Mrs. F. D. Waite, L. A. Blochman

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### REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of The San Diego  
Floral Association on the third Tuesday of  
every month at 8:00 p. m.

August 15—(a) "Violets." (b) "Planting  
Seeds for Winter Blooms." With Mrs.  
I. D. Webster, 1028 Thirty-second St.

### OUT-DOOR MEETINGS

First Tuesday of the month in the after-  
noon:

### The July Meeting

As had been planned the San Diego Floral Association met on Tuesday evening, July 18th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Frevert. The members and their friends were invited to visit the lath garden in the rear. It was a treat that will long be remembered, and every one there had visions of making their own back yard more livable. Finally all went inside and the meeting was called to order by Vice-President Blochman. Miss Sessions was called upon to lead in the discussion on ferns, a most profitable and interesting talk. From almost invisible fern seed to mature plants, ranging from small moss-like creations to immense plume-decked trunks was the scope of the discussion. Summed up briefly the following notes give a gist of what was said.

Fern seed or spores, unlike other plant seed, do not grow directly into the final form. From the spore a small green, flat growth is produced resembling the lichens that grow on rocks. On this little plant, which is called a prothallium, are the organs of reproduction and under the right conditions a little baby fern starts to grow, showing the characteristic form right from the start.

In collecting spores one must be very careful, for their dust-like size makes them likely to be carried by the wind to other ferns, so in planting one may get two or three kinds of ferns, where he supposed he had only one. Some times the fern spores are arranged in lines, some times in dots, or may be part of the back of the frond. This arrangement is used in classifying ferns. Miss Sessions brought a number of the different kinds of ferns that are most useful and explained what conditions were best for their growth, emphasizing plenty of water, but at the same time the best possible drainage, leaf mold and rich soil.

Many of the members brought specimens of flowers grown in their own gardens, with a word of description.

As the hour was late the discussion of "Fall Flowering Plants" was postponed till another meeting.

Mr. Fleming and Mr. Sumner spoke briefly on the advisability of the Association lending its influence in the protection of the Torrey Pines and Vice-President Blochman appointed them, together with Mr. F. D. Waite, on a committee to see what can be done.

The large attendance and enthusiasm plainly indicated a most successful meeting, one to be looked back at with much pleasure.

The motion to adjourn was carried.

### THE JUNE MEETING

The members of the San Diego Floral Association, who attended the outdoor meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Erskine J. Campbell on Point Loma, enjoyed a rare treat.

The display of annuals in one portion of the garden, which until April was an open field, excited the admiration of all who viewed it. Such a riot of color! The flowering stock in every shade and tint from white to deepest purple was a mass of exquisite beauty. The old-rose and white clarkia were 'decked with daintiest blossoms—and the beds of blue and white larkspur were dotted with a new and vivid pink larkspur. Lavender, pink and white candy tuft, brachicomb, and the fragrant dianthus form the borders in this old-fashioned colorful garden! Yellow snapdragons, patches of gay petunias, the dainty schizanthus (lavender, white and mottled) cerise and rose pink phlox, and the tall, graceful stems of the scabiosa, each bearing a dainty blossom, make a garden as charming as one's heart could desire.

## The Flower Garden

*Miss Mary Matthews*



CONTINUE the work of last month on through this, watering and cultivating afterwards. Where young seedlings are coming through the ground they should be kept shaded and moist, if in boxes put a piece of sacking or very fine wire netting over them and water through it. If you want to plant a violet bed or over-haul your old one, this is the time to do it. The secret of growing violets successfully is to keep the ground cool. Cannas, grasses and bamboos can be divided this month and reset. Good clumps of the papyrus seem to be getting scarce around town. This is one of the most decorative things we have in the way of a grass. Clumps of it, where well established, ought to be given good care, that is very rich loose soil and unlimited water. Bouganvilleas can be set out or trimmed into shape this month, as they make their growth during the warm weather. If the Pelargoniums, "Lady Washington Geraniums," have finished blooming, take cuttings of any you wish to propagate. They like a sunny spot.

Still plant tropical shrubs and vines. Fuchsias, ferns and heliotropes can be put in. These, with the various Impatiens make a very effective planting on the shady side of the house. A Florida specialist says August is the month to put out the Poinciana Regia, or "Flamboyant flower." The "Bird of Paradise," or *Caesalpinia pulcherrima* is fairly common here, and they are often confused.

The Royal Poinciana is a small tree with wide spreading top, foliage is that of Leguminosae, and the flowers are gorgeous orange scarlet, with seed pods from six inches to two feet long. Another rather rare shrub recommended for planting now is the *Plumeria Rubra*, the frangipani shrub, said to be the most intensely fragrant of all tropical shrubs. They have waxy funnel-shaped flowers of white yellow and rose purple, mingled. It is a native of Mexico and grows well in a very protected spot when once started. Another Mexican shrub that I am very fond of is *Choisya ternata*, "Mexican orange." This is growing in the Exposition grounds and is seen in a few yards around town. Both foliage and flowers are aromatic. If you have a *Coprosma* or "wax plant," and want to increase your stock, look under some nearby tree or shrub and you will probably find little plants. The other day in weeding under an old hibiscus I found nine sturdy little *Coprosmas*. Their flowers are greenish and insignificant, usually concealed under foliage, and seldom noticed except by the birds. Another thing that seeds freely and is well worth cultivating is *Sollya hetrophylla*, the "Australian blue bell." These are rather hard to transplant, about the only one of the Pittos-

porum family that is, but are well worth the extra care you give them, for their brilliant blue flowers and glossy foliage. They are climbers, or can be pruned to shrub form.

Lift your *Watsonias* if you wish to separate them, and put them back at once. The old bloom stalks, combined with those of the New Zealand flax are very decorative for an everlasting bouquet.

German Iris can be separated and put back again. The little peacock iris, which I have learned lately is *Morea*. "*Morea Glancopsis*" should go in before long, as they make their best growth early. Learning things over is one of the pleasures of horticulture or floriculture. You get things firmly fixed in your mind and then some one who knows comes along and tells you that was a mistake when the subject was placed, that it is so and so, and you learn all over, and wait for a still higher authority. Freesias can also be lifted and replanted this month. Put them in a shady spot. The bloom stalks come longer and the flowers are more enduring.

Continue to plant perennials for next season's blooming. They are easier taken care of in flats and grown on till cool weather, when they can be put in permanent places. Stocks can still be planted for later winter blooming. Give your sweet peas attention every day. They require lots of care if they are to be fine ones. Don't forget the cosmos if not already in. It will furnish blooms through the late fall.

Twenty teachers of the city schools attended four weeks of a summer course in agriculture and horitculture—conducted by Miss K. O. Sessions and Mr. C. F. Palmer. The class work was held at the Franklin school and the garden work at Miss Sessions' nursery. Mr. Palmer is supervisor of the agricultural work of the Los Angeles elementary schools, and is a very able, practical and entertaining lecturer. The excursion work done by the class was very enjoyable. Middletown Park, the Exposition grounds, the private gardens of Mr. George Marston and Miss Alice Lee and Mr. Darnell, Balboa Park, the Exposition and Park nurseries, the gardens of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Frevert, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Robinson, were visited and many notes taken.

The regular meeting of the San Diego Floral Association, Tuesday evening, August 15th, will be held with Dr. and Mrs. I. D. Webster, 1028 Thirty-second near Broadway. Leave No. 2 car at Twenty-eighth and B streets and walk east. There will be a few machines to help out in the walk. Subject: "Seed Planting for Winter Flowers and Violets."

Now is the time to pay your subscription and membership dues.

## The Secretary's Report

Directors' Meeting, July 18th.

The Board of Directors of the San Diego Floral Association met Tuesday, July 18th, at 7:15 p. m., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Frevert, with Miss Leila Clough presiding. Those present were Messrs. Blochman and Gorton, Misses Clough, Rainford and Sessions, and Mesdames Kneale and Waite.

Mrs. Kneale presented her resignation, which was accepted with regret. It was moved and carried that Mr. Stephen Connell be made director to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Mrs. Kneale.

The next in order was election of officers. It was deemed advisable to postpone the election of President till a later date. Mr. L. A. Blochman was elected Vice-President.

The meeting adjourned till Thursday, July 27th at 4:30 p. m., at Frevert-Bledsoe Furniture Co.

R. W. SUMNER, Secretary.

Directors' Meeting, July 27th.

A meeting of the San Diego Floral Association directors was called to order at 4:30 p. m. Thursday, July 27th, at Frevert-Bledsoe furniture store. Present: Misses Clough, Rainford, Sessions, Mrs. Waite and Mr. Gorton. Mr. Stephen Connell was nominated to fill the office of President for the coming year and was unanimously elected.

The list of officers and directors now stands as follows: Mr. Stephen Connell, President and Director; Mr. L. A. Blochman, Vice-President, Treasurer and Director; R. W. Sumner, Secretary; Mrs. F. D. Waite, Miss Leila Clough, Miss A. M. Rainford, Miss K. O. Sessions and Mr. G. R. Gorton, Directors.

Mrs. Waite made a motion that the secretary be instructed to make a list at the earliest moment of members of the Association who were "paid up" and in good standing, so the directors could have same for reference.

Meeting adjourned.

R. W. SUMNER, Secretary.

The outdoor meeting of the Floral Association, scheduled to take place at Mrs. Darling's, August 1st, was a great pleasure to those fruit, flower and view lovers that ventured out. It was regretted that more did not avail themselves of Mrs. Darling's hospitality. Punch was served under a loquat tree, and much interest was taken in the Orchard, showing choice varieties of Feijoas and almonds. The view was wonderfully beautiful.

## HAS THE CHICKEN'S A SOUL?

A subscriber to the Kackle laments that the ordinary poultryman denies a soul to the chicken and suggests that we might rectify this matter, as he has heard there is an occult school on Point Loma. This from Illinois. We refer to it merely to inquire whether if we establish the chicken's title to this possession you will be more interested in our stock? If you are laughing, quit doing so for our cocks "Shem" and "I Should Say" have looked with indifference on first prizes, surely a soulful poise. Further a dissection of the fowl and the human equally fails to disclose the soul and a chicken is ahead in the matter of a gizzard which we envy him when we inadvertently swallow a tack.

Another "seer" has been found in Montana and we have shipped him a dozen chicks that will make him arise and call us blessed. A son of Cassandra goes to Riverside County. Oh ye of little faith, how long will ye suffer this exodus and hang on to your "just" chickens.

Not one answer to our queries of last month, but we could stand this neglect if we believed you were cultivating your garden, but we don't.

You can get a few nice laying pullets now for the price of a pair of those lace-on-the-bias-down-the-side white and black shoes.

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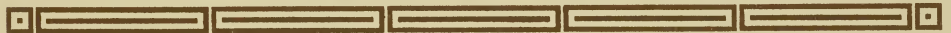
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